implemented by this Ministry through Housing and Urban Development Corporation Ltd. (HUDCO), the cumulative status as on 31.3.2009 since 1989-90, are as follows:—

(i)	the number of scavengers relieved of this practice carrying night soil	—	60952
(ii)	the number of units set-up under the scheme throughout the country	—	2828347
(iii)	the amount spent (Central subsidy released)	—	Rs. 359.51 crores
(iv)	number of beneficiaries *i.e.* (equal to number of units completed (2828347) plus number of units in progress (230018)	—	3058365

Under the revised guidelines of Integrated Low Cost Sanitation (ILCS) Scheme implemented since January, 2008, the data regarding number of scavengers liberated is yet to be furnished by the State Governments/ULBs as the Scheme is in progress only. However, this Ministry has released an amount of Rs. 39.42 crores as on 31.5.2009. for conversion of 2,41,931 units and for construction of 32305 units. List of beneficiaries and the scavengers liberated will be furnished by the State Governments/ULBs as and when construction of units are completed.

National policy for street vendors

†1404. SHRI PRABHAT JHA : Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government is going to implement a new national policy for street vendors in urban areas;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the basis on which this policy is different from the old one and provisions made therein; and

(d) the action plan Government has to implement this new policy properly and in a corruption free manner?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) to (c) Yes, Sir. The Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation has comprehensively revised the National Policy on Urban Street Vendors, 2004 and come out with the National Policy on Urban Street Vendors 2009. This revised Policy seeks to provide an enabling framework for street vendors to earn a honest living without harassment, backed by a legislative framework. It clarifies roles of Town Vending Committee, Local Authority and Planning Authority at city level and State Governzzment to provide a conductive environment to street vendors for carrying out street vending.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The salient features of the National Policy on Urban Street Vendors 2009 indicating the differences compared to the old policy of 2004 are enclosed as Statement (*See* below).

(d) The Ministry of Housing and Urban Poverty Alleviation has prepared a list of the key action points and forwarded to State/UT Governments for appropriate and suitable action for smooth implementation of the policy guidelines.

Statement

Salient features of the National Policy on Urban Street Vendors 2009
indicating the differences compared to the old policy of 2004

1. The Town Vending Committee (TVC) to be constituted by the appropriate Government in all cities/towns and wards (if considered necessary). The committee should have at least 40% of representatives from the street vendors.

2. Functions of TVC have been clearly specified with reference to:

— in undertaking periodic surveys

— in registration and issuance of Identity Cards

— in monitoring

— in assessing and determining maximum holding capacity of each vending zone.

3. The demarcation of 'Restriction Free Vending Zones', 'Restricted Vending Zones' and 'No-vending Zones' is to be made city/town specific depending upon the ground realities.

4. There should not be any cut-off date for registration or limit imposed on the number of vendors who should be permitted to vend in any city/town, subject to registration of such vendors and regulation through the TVC.

5. Mobile vending to be permitted in all areas unless designated as 'No-vending Zone'.

6. Concept of roster-based time-sharing model of space has been introduced.

7. System of registration and issuance of Identity cards with revised details such as vendor code number, vendor's nominee, category (stationary/mobile) etc. are introduced.

8. Provision for reservation for SCs/STs and giving priority to physically challenged/disabled persons in allocation of vending stalls/spaces has been made.

9. A time limit for stationary vendors — ten years with a further extension of another ten years — is introduced.

10. to prevent the extortion of street vendors, the collection of revenue through TVC is introduced.

11. A detailed monitoring mechanism at three levels is proposed: (a) TVC at the city/town/ward level; (b) CEO/Commissioner of Municipal Authority at the municipal level, and (c) State Nodal Officer at the State Level.

12. Street vendors, being micro entrepreneurs, should be provided with vocational education and training etc.

13. The TVC would disseminate information pertaining to the availability of insurance and credit especially micro-finance to the street vendors.

14. The Credit Guarantee Fund Scheme for Small Industries (CGFSI), designed by the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) and similar schemes should be extended to the street vendors.

15. A detailed Action Plans should be prepared at the levels of Government of India, State Governments and the Local Authorities for effective implementation of the Policy.

16. The TVCs would be responsible for redressal of grievances and resolution of disputes arising amongst the street vendors or between the street vendors and third parties (as the first point of intervention).

17. This Policy recommends for the conduct of comprehensive, digitized photographic surveys of street vendors and their locations by competent professional institutions/agencies and maintenance of computerized information systems.

Hoarding of flats by builders

1405. SHRI Y.P. TRIVEDI: Will the Minister of HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is Government's policy to punish hoarding of food and other essential commodities which would bring down prices of food and essential goods;

(b) whether similar provisions are used against those builders who have completed the construction of flats and do not sell and hoard them in order to create artificial price rise of flats;

(c) whether there were similar provisions in Maharashtra where flats which remained vacant for more than six months were requisitioned and allotted to needy persons; and

(d) whether same law if revived the prices of vacant flats in custody of builders can come down drastically?

THE MINISTER OF HOUSING AND URBAN POVERTY ALLEVIATION (KUMARI SELJA): (a) and (b) Rise in prices as well as availability of essential commodities have remained the concern of the Central Government. Adequate powers are vested with State/UT Governments under the Essential Commodities Act, 1955 and the Prevention of Black Marketing and Maintenance of Supplies of Essential Commodities Act, 1980. Directions have been given to the State Governments from time to time to take necessary action under both the Acts, and to strengthen their enforcement machinery.